

In the Claims:

1. (original) A stamping device for stamping identification data, especially in the form of code numerals (22), in plastic products such as containers which have been produced preferably by a blow-fill-seal process, it being possible to guide longitudinally at least one stamp (32) having a stamping unit (34) with replaceable identification data units (42), and, when the stamp (32) is in a raised state, to deliver and remove the products stamped or to be stamped and, when in the lowered state, to effect stamping of the products.
2. (original) The stamping device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the plastic product and/or the stamping unit (34) is/are heated for the purpose of stamping the identification data.
3. (currently amended) The stamping device as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the direction of delivery and removal (Z) of the plastic product is longitudinal or transverse with respect to the stamping direction of the stamp (32).
4. (currently amended) The stamping device as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein a support stamp (46) is present which may be moved in the opposite direction simultaneously with or desynchronized from the stamp (32).
5. (original) The stamping device as claimed in claim 4, wherein the frame (24) has columnar guides (58) for longitudinal guidance of the plate-like stamping unit (34) and a support plate (50) of the support stamp (46).
6. (original) The stamping device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the plate-like stamping unit (34) and the support plate (50) are adjacent to and face each other and the piston rods (36; 48) of the stamp (32) and support stamp (46) engage the associated plate (34; 50) and with their housing element (38; 54) are mounted on the frame (24) so as to be stationary.

7. (currently amended) The stamping device as claimed in claim ~~5-6~~6, wherein there is present a guide plate (64) connected to the frame (24) by way of a column suspension and mounted between plate-like stamping unit (34) and support plate (50), which guide plate guides the plastic products for a stamping process within the frame (24).
8. (currently amended) The stamping device as claimed in claim ~~1-6~~7, wherein the plastic products are configured as ampules as containers (10) and, being connected in a strip by an edge zone (10), are stamped in succession and wherein a plurality of adjacent ampules is provided with stamping simultaneously.